

JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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VISIT OF GERMAN CHURCH LEADERS

Three distinguished leaders of the Evangelical Church in Germany will shortly be paying a visit to Japan in order to appraise the present work of German Christian agencies and consult with Japanese Christian leaders concerning future cooperative endeavor. They include Prases D. Kurt Scharf, Chairman of the German Protestant Churches, Prasideint D. Adolf Wischmann, Head of the Office of Foreign Affairs of the German Protestant Churches and Konsistorialrat Dr. Schlingensieben, Ecumenical Secretary of the Union Church in Germany.

Under the direction of Dr. Alfred Schmidt of the Christian Academy, and in consultation with the various agencies, elaborate plans are being made for the Japan itinerary of these Churchmen. There will be a noontime dinner reception at the Tokyo Prince Hotel on the 15th of October to be followed by a meeting with all German missionaries at the German Church in Shinagawa. The members of the delegation will be heard at a meeting in the Aoyama Gakuin Chapel at 2:00pm. on the 16th, to which the Christian public is invited. All these gatherings are being arranged under the auspices of the National Christian Council of Japan.

FOURTH MEETING OF THE WORLD ALLIANCE OF YMCA

The fourth meeting of the World Council was held at Tozan-so, National Conference Center of the Japan YMCA, August 8 - 14 with the attendance of four hundred delegates. There were only forty voting delegates from the United States and an equal number of non-voting delegates and visitors. Some 44 countries were represented. The first such meeting followed the World Conference in Paris in 1955, when the Constitution was revised, and a 4-year cycle of Council meetings provided.

Though such World Council meetings cannot legislate for the whole YMCA Movement, they provide excellent opportunities for representatives of the Associations to develop a common mind concerning aims in keeping with the needs of the world today.

~~It~~ were agreed that the 1965 meeting achieved the following aims:

- 1) Fresh emphasis was given to the purpose as a Christian organization to make a maximum contribution to the growth of unity among the follower of Christ.
- 2) The YMCA: contributions as a Christian organization to racial understanding, international justice and good will were strengthened.
- 3) YMCA programs on behalf of youth of school and college age were also strengthened.

The first aim was symbolized at the opening session by the participation of the Rt. Rev. Bishop Vladimir, Orthodox Bishop of Tokyo and Japan, Bishop John S. Ito of the Catholic Diocese of Nagata, and Dr. Chitose Kishi, Lutheran leader and Chairman of Japan NCC.

The second aim was symbolized by the participation of Madam Pandit, especially in her address on "International Cooperation in a Decade of Development" - a theme taken from a UN resolution designating 1965 as a Year of International Cooperation.

The new World Alliance Council President is M. James C. Donnell II, President of the Marathen Oil Company of Ohio, who has been very active in the upper echelons of the YMCA for many years.

According to the Secretary General, Mr. Fredrik Franklin, "There is, I believe, a consensus that this was a good meeting. The excellence of the main addresses, the earnest and competent way in which the Commissions charted the course of the World Alliance for the coming years, the inspiration and challenge of the Bible studies, the lift we received from the morning and evening prayers and the closing service of rededication, the brief but colorful and captivating glimpses we had of Japanese life and culture, all contributed to a most memorable week of concentrated and strenuous work and unforgettable fellowship. To this must be added the high quality of those who made up the delegations of the participating national movement."

FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN

The Full Gospel Business Men's Association USA held its initial organizational meetings at the Hilton Hotel in Tokyo, September 13 - 15. This movement was originally started in Los Angeles under the leadership of Mr. Demos Shakarian, the prominent dairyman, and several prominent laymen of the Assemblies of God and other Pentecostal or Full Gospel groups. Since then it has become an effective channel of "full gospel renewal" in the United States and has spread to other countries, especially in Southeast Asia.

The team which recently visited Tokyo was led by the millionaire turkey raiser and mayor of Turlock, California, Mr. Enoch Christoffersen. Prayer Breakfast were held each day, with seminars on the charismatic operations of the Holy Spirit each afternoon, with 50 - 60 business men present at these sessions. Two mass meetings were held at night, with the Filipino evangelist, the Rev. Gregory Tingson, as the principal speaker.

The skeleton of a Japanese Full Gospel Business Men's Association was organized and henceforth special efforts will be made to enlist business men in Japan.

CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY CHORUS LEAVES FOR U.S. CHORUS FESTIVAL

The Kwansei Gakuin University chorus left Tokyo for New York on September 15 to participate in the World College Chorus Festival to be held there during the last part of September and first part of October.

College choruses from several countries will take part in the festival.

The 45-member Kwansei Gakuin chorus called on Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko at the Togu Palace shortly before leaving for the airport to bid them goodbye in song.

They sang "Soran Bushi," the popular folk song of Hokkaido, and a number of other popular songs.

JAPANESE DOCTOR TO RETURN TO PRACTICE IN NEPAL

Dr. Noboru Iwamura, 38, his wife Fumiko, their adopted Nepalese daughter, Maya, and Dr. Iwamura's parents will leave on October 10 for Nepal, to return to his work of aiding the diseased in that land.

Formerly an assistant professor at Tottori University in western Japan, Dr. Iwamura was sent to Nepal in 1962 by the Japan Christian Overseas Medical Cooperative Association. After working with the suffering patients of that land for two years, he decided to settle there permanently.

Upon his return to Nepal he will at first work with a mobile tuberculosis clinic to be sent by the Welfare Ministry and Japan Red Cross. (This government mission, which will chiefly care for tuberculosis and leprosy, is the sixth of its kind to be sent abroad by the Japanese Government's Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency under the Colombo Plan.) He will later settle in the Tansen district and care for diseased patients with supplies and equipment donated by Japanese through the aforementioned Christian medical association.

According to Dr. Iwamura, there are only about 150 doctors for a population of almost 10 million, and only 1,000 beds in 57 hospitals and clinics to treat tuberculosis, small pox and leprosy patients. The average life span in the country is only 36.

After returning to Japan in 1964, Dr. Iwamura wrote a book "For All to Live," which helped make known the sad plight of the Nepalese.

Their adopted daughter, Maya, was orphaned when her Nepalese parents died of tuberculosis.

Dr. Iwamura hopes to build a hospital in Nepal for tuberculosis-afflicted children.

SUMMER MEETINGS AT KARUIZAWA

More than four hundred missionaries attended the annual meetings of the Evangelical Missionary Association of Japan at Karuizawa, August 1 - 3,

The main speaker was the Rev. Paul Bartel of Hongkong, who gave the opening address. The devotional messages at the morning sessions were given by Mr. David R. Kruse, an independent missionary. Three papers, followed by open discussion, were presented by the Rev. Akira Hatori, well-known gospel broadcaster, on the Psychology of the Japanese; the Rev. Kenneth McVety, director of the Word of Life Press, on the New Japanese Bible; and the Rev. Paul W. Boschman of the Mennonite Mission, on Church Growth.

The deliberations of the annual business meeting revealed that EMAJ is fully aware of the need to cooperate with others in every possible area of Christian effort. Action was also taken to cooperate fully with New Japanese Bible publishers in the preparation of this translation and also in securing as wide circulation in Japan as possible.

A special feature of the annual meeting was the presentation of a beautiful electronic organ by the members of EMAJ to the Karuizawa Union Church auditorium, long the meeting place of inter-mission and church groups.

The members of the EMAJ committee who will be serving this coming year are the following:

President: Sam Archer, (TEAM) for 1964 - 1966
 Vice-President: Gordon Johnson, (ECCA) for 1965 - 1967
 Secretary: Kenneth Ridley, (CLC) for 1964 - 1966
 Treasurer: Wesley Wilson, (TEAM) for 1965 - 1967
 Members-at-large: Bennie Benson, (CBFMS) for 1964 - 1966
 Hubert Helling, (CN) for 1965 - 1967
 Captain George Oystryck, (SA) for 1965 - 1967
 Rollin Reasoner, (FEGC) for 1964 - 1966
 Ernst Vatter, (LM) for 1965 - 1967

The Rev. David McKee, wellknown Irish Presbyterian missionary to India was the principal speaker at the meetings of the Japan Convention for the Deepening of the Spiritual Life, August 5 - 8, in the same auditorium.

JOBB FOR HANDICAPPED WORKERS

September is becoming recognized by the nation as the month for promoting employment of physically-handicapped persons. On September 2, as during the past four years, a number of firms were commended by the Labor Minister for their positive steps in the employment of such persons.

Statistics reveal that only about half of the physically-handicapped who have the ability to work are being employed.

To help meet this situation the Disabled Person's Employment Promotion Law was passed in July of 1960. According to this statute, government offices, public corporations and private enterprises are "requested" to employ handicapped persons. The ratio for employment of disabled persons is suggested as between 1.1 to 1.5 for every 100 employees. Government offices have succeeded in reaching 1.48 per cent.

The Paralympics, held in Tokyo last year immediately following the Olympic Games, helped to heighten interest in and understanding of the social rehabilitation of disabled persons. Christian efforts such as the AGAPE factory of Church World Service also have helped to plant the seeds.

Many companies are being impressed by the zeal of the handicapped workers and their high capabilities. Such concerns continue to employ an increasingly larger number of disabled persons.

At present there are nine Government-operated occupational training centers in Japan offering courses in more than 60 types of work. More are needed.

HOME MADE ELECTRONIC ORGAN

An electric organ, designed and built by a church member at half the cost of a commercial organ, has aroused considerable interest in Japan.

Mr. Kiyoshi Hama, an electric engineer with the Sony Company in Tokyo, offered to attempt to build the organ when the Daita Church, Tokyo, first began to make plans for a new building in 1961.

The church, with 200 members, and established in 1931, was drawing up plans for a two-story 64 tsubo (120 sq. meters) building of wooden construction, at a cost of ¥11,600,000 (\$32,250). When the possibility of having an organ came up, the problem was referred to the building committee. Previously, the Daita Church had been using a reed organ.

The committee agreed that a pipe organ was far out of reach, financially, for the Daita Church. The cost of even an electric organ, used in many churches today, ran as much as ¥2,500,000 (\$6,950). Then Mr. Hama, a member of the "technical committee", proposed building an electronic organ for the church, one which he would design and install.